

# DRAFT

## Finding of No Significant Impacts (FONSI)

### Millpond Maintenance Facility

Swiftwater Field Office, Roseburg District  
EA# OR-104-07-01

The Swiftwater Field Office, Roseburg District, Bureau of Land Management has a need to replace the existing Rock Creek Maintenance Facility currently located on the east side of BLM Road 26-3-1.0, T. 25 S., R. 02 W., Section 21 due to safety and security concerns. There are two proposed locations for the new facility. One location (Site #1) is on the west side of BLM Road 26-3-1.0, T. 25 S., R. 02 W., Section 21, W.M. and the other location (Site #2) is on the east side of BLM Road 26-3-1.0, T. 25 S., R. 02 W., Section 21, W.M..

Site #1 is within the existing boundary of the Lone Pine Group Campground and Site #2 is within the existing boundary of the Millpond Recreation Site. Both sites are approximately 0.25 mile south of the existing Rock Creek Maintenance Facility. The project area lies within the General Forest Management Area and within the North Umpqua Special Recreation Management Area.

### Test for Significant Impacts.

1. Has significant impacts that may be both beneficial and adverse (40 CFR §1508.27(b) (1))?  
☐ Yes ☒ No  
**Remarks:** Any impacts would be consistent with the range and scope of those effects analyzed and described in the Roseburg District Proposed Resource Management Plan/Environmental Impact Statement (PRMP/EIS).
2. Has significant adverse impacts on public health or safety (40 CFR §1508.27(b) (2))?  
☐ Yes ☒ No  
**Remarks:** There are safety issues with the existing Rock Creek Maintenance Facility regarding proper emergency exit routes out of the building and rock fall from the surrounding hillside within the fenced perimeter of the facility (EA, pg. 3). The periodic storage of heavy equipment in the unfenced, overflow parking lot at the Millpond Recreation Site is easily accessible and may attract visitors (especially children) posing a potential safety hazard (EA, pg. 16-17).

The potential safety hazards posed by: (1) the periodic storage of heavy equipment in the unfenced, overflow parking lot at the Millpond

Recreation Site, (2) inadequate emergency exits out of the existing Rock Creek building, and (3) the rock fall hazard at the existing Rock Creek Maintenance Facility would be removed under both Action Alternative 1 and 2 (EA, pg. 19).

3. Adversely effects such unique geographic characteristics as historic or cultural resources, park, recreation or refuge lands, wilderness areas, wild or scenic rivers, sole or principal drinking water aquifers, prime farmlands, wetlands, floodplains or ecologically significant or critical areas including those listed on the Department's National Register of Natural Landmarks (40 CFR §1508.27(b) (3))?

☐ Yes ☒ No

**Remarks:** Site #1 and Site #2 are within the 100 year floodplain of Rock Creek (EA, pg 27). To minimize the risk of flooding from Rock Creek, approximately five feet of fill material would be required to build-up Site #1 above the 100 year floodplain (EA, pg. 27-28). Approximately two feet of fill material would be required to build-up Site #2 above the 100 year floodplain (EA, pg. 29). No unique characters of the flood plain have been identified in proposed location of Sites #1 or #2.

The remaining unique geographic characteristics listed above are absent from the project area and would not be affected.

4. Has highly controversial effects on the quality of the human environment (40 CFR §1508.27(b) (4))?

☐ Yes ☒ No

**Remarks:** Comments were solicited from affected tribal governments, adjacent landowners and affected State and local government agencies. No comments were received from these sources. A letter was sent (January 29, 2007) to adjacent landowners. Three comments were received. One respondent inquired about the design of the proposed facility and two others requested to be added to the mailing list for this project (EA, pgs. 45-46).

A 30-day **public comment period** would be established for review of this EA. A Notice of Availability would be published in *The News-Review*. The public comment period will begin with publication of the notice published in *The News-Review* on July 3, 2007 and end close of business August 2, 2007.

5. Has highly uncertain or involve unique or unknown risks to the human environment (40 CFR §1508.27(b) (5))?

☐ Yes ☒ No

**Remarks:** The risks to the human environment from the proposed project were analyzed and found not to be highly uncertain or unique (EA, pgs. 51-53).

6. Establishes a precedent for future actions with significant effects or represents a decision in principle about a future consideration (40 CFR §1508.27(b) (6))?

☐ Yes ☒ No

**Remarks:** The construction of a new maintenance facility (with associated building, grounds, and fencing) within the designated boundary of an existing facility is a common practice and does not establish a precedent for future actions.

7. Is related to other actions with individually insignificant but cumulatively significant impacts (40 CFR §1508.27(b) (7))?

☐ Yes ☒ No

**Remarks:** The cumulative impacts to recreation and visual resource management (pg. 19), wildlife (pgs. 26), hydrology (pgs. 30), soils (pg. 32), fish populations and habitat (pg. 34-35) were analyzed in the Millpond Maintenance Facility Environmental Assessment and found not to be significant.

8. Has adverse effects on districts, sites, highways, structures, or objects listed in or eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places or may cause loss or destruction of significant scientific, cultural, or historical resources (40 CFR §1508.27(b) (8))?

☐ Yes ☒ No

**Remarks:** The BLM conducted surveys for cultural resources and completed Section 106 responsibilities under the National Historic Preservation Act, in accordance with the 1998 Oregon State Historic Preservation Office protocols. Historic archaeological site 35DO897, the Rock Creek Mill, was recorded in 2001. It is not considered eligible for the National Register of Historic Places. The 2007 inventory did not reveal any additional resources (EA, pg. 14). Implementation of either Action Alternative 1 or 2 would have no effect on historic properties or cultural resources (EA, pg. 14).

9. May adversely affect an endangered or threatened species or its habitat that has been determined to be critical under the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (40 CFR §1508.27(b) (9))?

Botanical Species	<input type="radio"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="radio"/> No
Fish Species	<input type="radio"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="radio"/> No
Wildlife Species	<input type="radio"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="radio"/> No

**Remarks:** Surveys did not identify the presence of any federally threatened or endangered botanical species; therefore the action would have no effect on listed botanical species (EA, pgs. 43-44).

There are currently no federally listed endangered, threatened, or proposed for listing, fish species in the Roseburg District (EA, pg. 33). There is Essential Fish Habitat (EFH) for the

Oregon Coast coho and chinook salmon 500 feet downslope of Site #1 and 50 feet downslope of Site #2 (EA, pgs. 35-36, 45). However, the Swiftwater Field Office determined that neither Action Alternative 1 or 2 would adversely affect EFH for coho or Chinook salmon in Rock Creek or its tributaries (EA, pgs. 35-36, 45).

Consultation is in progress with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service regarding the permanent removal of 1.2 acres of dispersal habitat for the northern spotted owl by the construction of the maintenance facility. The results of this consultation will be disclosed in the Decision record (EA, pg. 45).

10. Threatens to violate Federal, State, or local law or requirements imposed for the protection of the environment (40 CFR §1508.27(b) (10))?

☐ Yes ☒ No

**Remarks:** The measures described above ensure that the Millpond Maintenance Facility would be consistent with all applicable Federal, State, and local laws. The impacts of the silvicultural treatment on the human environment would not exceed those anticipated by the Roseburg District PRMP/EIS.

Pursuant to Executive Order 13212, the BLM must consider the effects of this decision on the President's National Energy Policy. Within the project area, there are no known energy resources with commercial potential. There are no pipelines, electrical transmission lines, or energy producing or processing facilities. As a consequence, there would be no known adverse effect on National Energy Policy.

Based on the analysis of potential impacts contained in the environmental assessment, I will determine if the construction of the Millpond Maintenance Facility will have a significant impact on the human environment within the meaning of Section 102(2) (c) of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, and if an environmental impact statement is required. I will determine if the effects of the construction of the Millpond Maintenance Facility would be within those anticipated and already analyzed in the *Roseburg District Proposed Resource Management Plan/Environmental Impact Statement* (PRMP/EIS, 1994) and would be in conformance with the *Record of Decision and Resource Management Plan* (ROD/RMP) for the Roseburg District, approved by the Oregon/Washington State Director on June 2, 1995.

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Marci L. Todd, Field Manager  
Swiftwater Field Office

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Date